



AFRICAN ANCESTRY
TRACE YOUR DNA. FIND YOUR ROOTS.

AFRICAN ANCESTRY TRACING TIPS

Unlike most Americans, tracing ones roots through traditional means can be challenging for African Americans in that they usually hit a brick wall. The Transatlantic Slave Trade unjustly uprooted millions of enslaved Africans from their homeland countries in Africa and scattered them throughout the unfamiliar Americas. As a result, families were torn apart; identities were erased and replaced; native languages were expunged; and family histories were literally wiped out.

In recent years, a revolution has taken place in the ancestry tracing industry that allows people of African descent to pinpoint their originating bloodlines to a present day country of origin in Africa. African Ancestry, the pioneering experts of this innovation, overlays scientific DNA-testing in their tracing system, which empowers more than 99% accuracy for each sample tested. Read on for tips that make any African ancestry tracing experience easier, more reliable and the most accurate:

- **Know Your Root!** Before you take on any ancestry tracing endeavor, be sure to clearly define your goals. Are you demystifying an adoption? Are you solely interested in your African roots or other race-based lineages? Do you want to explore your mother's side vs. your father's, or both? Answering these type questions upfront can be the difference between an enjoyable experience with accurate results or a drawn-out, laborious process.
- **SCI-Y?!** Look for resources that employ science-based analyses. The accuracy in lineage matching is dependant upon the size and sampling of the scientific database used to match maternal (mtDNA) and paternal (Y) lineages to particular populations or geographic regions. African Ancestry, for example, owns the largest database of African DNA, which empowers the most accurate, reliable means of determining your family's origins.
- **Swab Meet!** One swab can unlock the roots of an entire family. For example, everyone inherits unique DNA exclusively from his or her mothers (likewise from male to male). This testing system alone reveals results for your siblings, mother's siblings, your sister's children, etc. Many African Ancestry testers use one-swab-results as life-changing gifts for multiple family members.
- **History's Mysteries!** Complementing your science tracing with historical information is a great way to enhance your research. In fact, African Ancestry collaborates with leading anthropologists, historians and linguists along the way to ensure relevancy and provide the most comprehensive results. Although, it's not recommended to solely rely on the paper trail, there are resources available that can enhance your search:
 - **Make it Count:** The U.S. Census Bureau and localized vital statistics offices maintain records that go back many years. Additionally, many libraries have archives that may be useful.
 - **Oral Hi-GENE:** Identify the oldest relative(s) that you have access to, interview them and maintain oral/video records of the discussion. Do the same for younger generations as well. Although they're time sensitive based on age, these oral histories are priceless for supplementing your research. They help to paint a family portrait that's uniquely yours and facilitates enlightenment of future generations.
 - **Organized 'Time':** Arrange your family research in a way that makes the most sense for you. Family Tree projects are a good example.
 - **Extra! Extra!** Scan historic newspapers and other archives to learn about the happenings during a given timeframe. You can infer a lot about past events that have played a part in shaping your family's identity.
- **Stay Connected!** Once you know, keep it moving. Consider joining online family networks where you can explore and exchange information. Many of African Ancestry's online community members have deepened their knowledge and learned about family bonds that are present and alive today. Additionally, the richness of these resources can be useful in planning trips to Africa, giving meaningful names to your children to planning family events like reunions or weddings.

About African Ancestry

Founded in 2003 on years of research, African Ancestry, Inc., is an ancestry tracing company that pioneered African lineage matching in the United States utilizing its proprietary DNA-database of more than 25,000 African DNA lineages to more accurately assess present-day country of origin for people of African descent. Since its inception, African Ancestry's lineage reveals have impacted the lives of more than 100,000 people of African descent in the U.S. African-American-owned and operated, African Ancestry is headquartered in Washington, DC. **For press inquiries, contact Taylor Communications Group at info@taylorcommunicationsgroup.com.**

Start Your Journey Today at www.africanancestry.com

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